

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 094080
ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 INR-10 DLOS-09 /040 R

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APPROVED BY L/OES:MEHOINKES

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ARA - MR. DE SANTILLANA

-----114329 130548Z /13

R 122120Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, EFIS

SUBJECT: U.S.-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MARITIME BOUNDARY AND
FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 25146

1. DEPT HAS RECEIVED INTERAGENCY CLEARANCE TO PROCEED
WITH MARITIME BOUNDARY AND FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
DOM REP ALONG THE GENERAL LINES DESCRIBED IN PARA ONE
OF REFTEL.

2. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON MANNER OF PRO-
CEEDING AND THE TIMING OF MEETINGS. INITIAL DEPARTMENT
THINKING IS THAT GODR OFFICIALS WOULD NOT WISH TO FOCUS
ON THESE NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL AFTER MAY ELECTIONS- ACCORD-
INGLY, DEPARTMENT IS THINKING IN TERMS OF A JUNE TIME

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FRAME. DEPARTMENT IS HOPEFUL THAT RESUMPTION OF TALKS
WOULD NOT BE DELAYED LATER THAN JUNE, AND THAT AGREEMENT
COULD BE CONCLUDED THIS SUMMER.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL NEED SEVERAL WEEKS OF LEAD TIME BEFORE
RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS TO PREPARE CHARTS INDICATING USG
BOUNDARY PROPOSALS AND TO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO

FISHERY ISSUES AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SETS

OF ISSUES. ALTHOUGH, IN THE END, USG WILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY ON BOUNDARY WE CAN ACCEPT, DEPARTMENT WISHES TO IDENTIFY A PREFERRED BOUNDARY POSITION. FURTHERMORE, IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT AGREEMENT WILL ESTABLISH A PERMANENT BOUNDARY, DEPARTMENT WISHES TO REFLECT ON USG FISHERY CONCERNS AND ASSURE THAT THEY ARE COVERED BY THE FISHERY PROPOSAL THAT USG HAS ALREADY TABLED. DEPARTMENT FORESEES A USG DELEGATION OF COMPARABLE SIZE AND COMPOSITION AS PARTICIPATED IN NOVEMBER NEGOTIATIONS. IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL, IF DATES FOR THE NEXT ROUND COULD BE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME.

4. EMBASSY VIEWS ON TIMING AND MANNER OF PROCEEDING, PARTICULARLY WHETHER GODR WOULD BE PREPARED TO SET DATES AT THIS TIME, AS WELL AS VIEWS ON OTHER CONSIDERATIONS RAISED WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP.

5. DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE YOST ON THE BOUNDARY AND FISHERY ISSUES APRIL 10.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING AGREEMENTS, WATER BOUNDARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE094080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DACOLSON:AVW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780158-0682
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780463/aaaacbez.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ff023ab1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 25146
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2987005
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S.-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MARITIME BOUNDARY AND FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, US, DR
To: SANTO DOMINGO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ff023ab1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014